

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently amended): A flat security element, having a front side and a reverse side, and being relatively small in size, such as planchettes, wherein ~~it-the element includes, at least on one of its sides, at least one in-register authentication pattern and/or an in-register authentication pattern resulting from the comprising at least one of (i) a combination and/or and (ii) a superposition of a front side pattern on its front side and of a reverse side pattern on its reverse side, at least one of said authentication patterns being at least partly observable in transmitted light,~~

wherein said in-register authentication pattern is in register either with respect to at least one portion of the shape of said security element or with respect to at least one portion of said front side and reverse side patterns.

2-3. (Canceled)

4. (Previously presented): The security element as claimed in claim 1, wherein said element includes, as pattern on the front side, at least one given color and as pattern on the reverse side at least one other given color, said authentication pattern observed in transmitted light being the color resulting from the color on the reverse side and the color on the front side.

5. (Previously presented): The security element as claimed in the preceding claim 4, wherein the colors on the front and reverse sides are chosen from primary colors.

6. (Previously presented): The security element as claimed in claim 1, wherein one of said patterns is a pattern in the form of a geometric pattern, in particular in alphanumeric form, and/or in the form of a grid and/or lines and/or dots.

7. (Previously presented): The security element as claimed in claim 1, wherein the dimensions of said element are between 0.5 and 6 mm, preferably between 1 and 4 mm.

8. (Previously presented): The security element as claimed in claim 1, wherein it has a geometric shape, especially a circular, triangular, oval, square or rectangular shape, or a star shape, moon shape or a shape with curved edges.

9. (Previously presented): The security element as claimed in claim 1, wherein it includes printing in an amount of 1 to 10 g/m² per side, preferably between about 2 and 5 g/m² per side, by dry weight.

10. (Previously presented): The security element as claimed in claim 1, wherein said element includes patterns chosen from those that are visible in natural light or visible in UV light, that are luminescent, particularly fluorescent or phosphorescent, that are detectable by near or

medium infrared radiation, that are thermochromic or piezochromic, that are based on DNA traces, that are optically variable, especially iridescent, or based on liquid crystals or on diffraction gratings or on moiré patterns or holograms, or that are electromagnetic, or combinations thereof.

11. (Previously presented): The security element as claimed in claim 10, wherein said element includes, beneath or alongside said patterns, printing of electromagnetic, especially magnetic, character and, in particular, continuous tracks or codes in the form of magnetic bits.

12. (Previously presented): The security element as claimed in claim 1, wherein at least one of the patterns is visible to the naked eye.

13. (Previously presented): The security element as claimed in claim 1, wherein said element includes chemical authentication reactants, or reactants that reveal a specific event.

14. (Previously presented): The security element as claimed in claim 1, wherein said security element has a medium chosen from a fibrous sheet, a plastic film and a complex of these materials.

15. (Previously presented): The security element as claimed in claim 14, wherein said medium has a low basis weight, in particular between 25 and 40 g/m², and/or a thickness between about 50 and 110 µm.

16. (Previously presented): The security element as claimed in claim 14, wherein said fibrous sheet of said medium is based on natural and/or synthetic fibers.

17. (Previously presented): The security element as claimed in claim 16, wherein said fibrous sheet is a paper based on cellulose fibers refined to a low degree, of the overlay type.

18. (Previously presented): The security element as claimed in claim 14, wherein the plastic film of said element is a polyester film.

19. (Previously presented): The security element as claimed in claim 14, wherein said element is based on a bulk-opacified medium or on a medium having, on at least one of its sides, at least partly, a full or partial color, opacifying or barrier layer or printing.

20. (Previously presented): A security sheet comprising a fibrous substrate that includes several flat security elements of relatively small size, such as those described in claim 1.

21. (Previously presented): The security sheet as claimed in the preceding claim 20, wherein said security elements are arranged in the form of a band and/or randomly distributed within said substrate.

22. (Previously presented): A security document obtained from a sheet as claimed in claim 20.

23. (Previously presented): A process for manufacturing security elements, which include an in-register pattern as described in claim 1, comprising the following steps:

- at least one portion of said authentication patterns is printed in one or more steps on one of the sides of its medium;
- at least one portion of said authentication patterns is printed, where appropriate on the other side, in one or more steps, either by being in register with respect to at least one portion of the shape of said element or by being in registration with respect to the previously printed portion.

24. (Previously presented): The manufacturing process as claimed in claim 23, wherein the printed medium is cut in registration into security elements of the desired shape and such that at least the in-register pattern is wholly present on said element.